Bangladesh. The investment decision for the facilities for transportation of natural gas to end consumers depends on the permission from Bangladesh for export of natural gas to India and the techno-economic viability.

Demand for Kerosene in A.P.

2099. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand for kerosene is constantly increasing in rural and urban areas due to power shortage in Andhra Pradesh particularly in backward districts;

(b) whether Government are contemplating to hike the quota for kerosene to the drought prone areas of Andhra Pradesh to enable them to meet the rising demand of kerosene; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISETER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Government makes kerosene allocation to the state for distribution under Public Distribution System. State Government of Andhra Pradesh undertakes distribution of the product to urban, rural and drought prone areas etc., within the allocation made by the Government.

Upgradation of Cochin Refinery

2100. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to upgrade the BPCL's Cochin refinery in this financial year; and

(b) the details of the steps including the time by when the work is likely to begin?